(*a*) whether they are aware of the scracity of small coins for circulation in the State ;

(*b*) whether any fresh copper coins have been minted for meeting this situation ; and

(*c*) whether any steps have been taken for preventing the hoarding of small coins ?

Mr. A. Lakshminarayana Ayyar (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. New copper coins are being minted and issued from 25-5-1118.

(*c*) Yes. The honourable member's attention is invited to the Press Communique issued under date 11-1-1943/27-5-1118, a copy of which is placed on the table.*

Silver and copper coins.

5. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they noticed in the people a tendency to hoard silver and copper coins ; and

(*b*) if so, what steps they have taken to check that tendency?

Mr. A. Lakshminarayana Ayyar : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The honourable member's attention is invited to the answer given to part (*c*) of interpellation No. 4 [26.]

Hoarding of copper and silver coins.

6. ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether hoarding of copper and silver coins is punishable in Travancore ?

Mr. A. Lakshminarayana Ayyar : Yes, under Rule 29 of the Defence of Travancore Rules. The honourable member's attention is also invited to the Press Communique issued under date 11th January 1943 (27th Dhanu 1118).

Fee concessions in schools.

7. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state ;

(*a*) whether it is a convention that fee concession once granted to a pupil in any one section is allowed to be enjoyed by that pupil till the end of the course, unless he forfeits it as per fee concession rules ;

(*b*) whether headmasters of schools are competent to withdraw and award it to another pupil before the end of the course on the ground that the latter is poorer ; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, will they be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of cases

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar]

if any during 1941-42 in the departmental schools where fee concession once granted to a pupil was withdrawn before the end of the course and awarded to another pupil on the ground that the latter is poorer ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*) :

(*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Does not arise in view of answer to part (*b*).

Appendix.

Vide **Answer to Question No. 4**

COMMUNIQUE.

Government have, for some time past, been noticing an abnormal tendency on the part of the public for the absorption of the small coins of the State. This is evident from the following figures of absorption during the three years 1113, 1115 and 1117 ;—

	Silver coins to the face value of Rs.	*Copper coins to the face value of* Rs.
1113 ...	75,099	4,731
1115 ...	4,76,115	20,157
1117 ...	12,95,815	3,49,542

Though the Government are fully alive to the fact that there is bound to be a reasonable increase in small coin requirements due to the increased economic activity at present, it cannot be to such an abnormal extent as evidenced by the above figures. Such abnormal absorption naturally leads to the irresistible inference of the hoarding of these small coins, thereby tending to prevent their free circulation. It also discloses to a certain extent a desire for the exploitation of the present situation by certain individuals with a view to profiteering. As such hoarding of small coins is likely to paralyse business of all kinds, Government wish to invite the co-operation of the public so as to prevent the accumulation of such coins in a few hands. Government alone may not be completely able to help the free circulation of coins, so very essential for the economic prosperity of the people and are doing their best to supply small coins to a large extent. Out of Rs. 55 lakhs worth of small coins issued till now, nearly Rs. 12 lakhs of coins were minted and issued in 1117 alone. Arrangements have been made to mint and issue as much coins as possible during this year. Local manufacture of copper blanks and minting has also recently been started and the new coins are being issued from 25th Dhanu 1118.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly